

TONOPAH DAILY BONANZA

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SECRETARY HUGHES LIKES ROGERS' BILL

There has for some time been pending before congress a bill introduced by Representative John Rogers, of Massachusetts, "for the reorganization and improvement of the foreign service of the United States." That bill is on the calendar and hearings are expected to take place with respect to it in the near future.

Briefly the bill provides for the creation of a single foreign service through the amalgamation of the diplomatic and consular services on an interchangeable basis, representation allowances for foreign service officers, a corps of foreign service pupils to be allocated for the service at government expense, a retirement system for foreign service officers, based on the present civil service retirement act. In the view of the American Consular Bulletin, the Rogers bill if enacted will represent another milestone in the rebuilding of our foreign service.

While Secretary of State Hughes has not formally approved this measure it is quite evident from the address which he made recently to the U. S. chamber of commerce at the annual convention in Washington that the Rogers bill is in harmony with Mr. Hughes' ideas. With respect to the interchangeability of the services he said:

"There is also the need of a greater flexibility. There has long been too great a distinction between the political interests of the diplomatic service and the commercial interests of the consular service. Both are engaged in political work and both are engaged in commercial work. You cannot at this time take economics out of diplomacy. If you would protect our interests on the one side you must support them on the other, and I believe that the two branches of the service—now called the diplomatic and consular—should be drawn together and treated as an interchangeable unit. This would permit the men to be assigned from one service to the other and thus give a greater range of opportunity for putting men in places where they belong as their aptitudes and special talents are revealed."

A WORLD MONETARY CONFERENCE

The Genoa conference has come to an end without accomplishing the purposes for which it was called. The question of reparation is one of vast importance and yet one which becomes insignificant as compared with the broader and deeper question of a stabilization of European finance. Just as the conference at Geneva which led to no real results was followed by the conference at Washington, which led to very practical results, so we may assume that the failure at Genoa might well be followed by another conference at Washington under the auspices of the United States government, and that from such a conference very definite results might be accomplished.

If there were no gold in the world, it is certain that European countries who are now almost entirely denuded of gold would in time find some method better than the old barter system by which to do business. The Mining Congress Journal believes that if the world's gold were evenly distributed and if governmental budgets were properly balanced that, although difficult it would still be possible to do the world's business on a gold basis under conditions which would make for prosperity among all the civilized nations of the world. Just to the extent that one country possesses more of gold than its proper proportion, to that extent must other nations suffer without an appreciable corresponding benefit to the possessor nation. In fact, many economists are now insisting that the surplus gold in the United States will sooner or later lead to another period of increased inflation which will be greatly detrimental to our industrial life.

What is the situation as we find it? The United States is possessed of at least a billion

dollar's more of gold than its proportionate share of the world's supply. European nations, which formerly had their share of this billion dollars of gold and their currencies depreciated in proportion to their gold deficits. These depreciated currencies disorganize business, create uncertainty and risk in all transactions and so destroy the nation's credit as to make impossible the purchase of goods from foreign countries no matter how greatly these goods may be needed, on the one hand a surplus of gold and a surplus of goods and merchandise, and across the water a deficit of gold, the breaking down of credit, unbalanced governmental budgets and a lack of that credit which they need more greatly than ever before in history.

America's conservative financial world says that time will right all of these conditions and that any effort to interfere with the apparent laws of economics will necessarily lead to disaster. Would not approval of this policy of conservatism, we believe, that should which has been extended to western farming interests through the war finance board will return itself a thousand fold in advantage to the country. It shows that starving nations whose tools of production have been destroyed by artificial conditions should be supplied with the tools of production to enable them more quickly to become self-supporting rather than that this country, even though it may be abundantly able to do so, shall be called on continuously to keep unproductive people in Europe from starving through charity rather than to make these people productive. H. R. 8404 was introduced by Congressman McFadden, chairman of the banking and currency committee of the house, Aug. 24, 1921. On Oct. 8, 1921, an extended hearing was had upon the bill, at which H. N. Lawrence, then economist of the American mining congress, presented exhaustive charts showing the depreciation of currency in the various countries and other information tending to show the importance of some action on behalf of this country looking to a system in stabilizing the rate of exchange among the various countries.

CONVENTIONS TO COUNTY

It will thus be seen that the duties of the county conventions are but nominal, to say the least, and the purpose for which they were called in the east is not so apparent as to become important. It would appear that the only theory of the drafter of the bill centered about an attempt to give the people a voice in the drafting of a platform and in the formation of county and state central committees, thereby stimulating the activities of the parties in the work of electing their representatives as well as naming the successful candidates at the general election, says the Elko Independent. For the purpose of reviving the old political spirit rampant during the convention days, the act may be of some value but as a definite assistant in working out the problems of the primary we can see no accomplishment whatever. The conventions have no authority whatever to name candidates for the primaries or to influence one way or the other the candidacies of any person for any office. In this respect many delegates who came here to attend the conventions will be disappointed for many of them came with the idea that upon them was placed the burden of selecting the party candidates who were to carry the standard at the general election. In this respect the county convention has created only an additional expense, borne in this case by the individual delegates themselves, and has accomplished nothing toward lubricating the machinery of the primary election law. The primary law still stands, in all its cumbersome details, not at all improved, and still considered by the mass of the people as an expensive and useless procedure.

BUILDING UP AMERICA

"Building up the business of this country is not going to depress the business of the world," is one of the fundamentals laid down by Senator Henry Cabot Lodge, republican leader in the senate, in a discussion of the pending tariff bill. "Other countries have high duties now. I think I am right in saying that in many cases their duties are higher than ours yet those who oppose this bill seem to think that these duties will stop the trade of other countries with us. The importers and the democrats have always put up the same camouflage attacks that we hear today, but the country invariably supports a republican protective tariff when a foundation is needed to the business of the country upon which to build an era of prosperity."

Former Speaker Reed, who was a very remarkable man, said in one occasion, "No tariff ever suited everybody except an immoderate tariff." No tariff was ever sustained by the democratic or republican party which satisfied everybody and it is not to be supposed that this one will satisfy every one of the variegated interests in the United States. But that is not the main question. The point which the country will regard as the fundamental one of whether we are to have a tariff based upon the principle of free trade or a tariff which means the embodiment of the protective principle. If those who are engaged in agriculture, mining or manufacturing look to the question in this larger way they will soon decide that the interest of all Americans who labor is to have industries protected against competition based upon lower standards of living.

FORCE AMERICANIZED

The United States shipping board announces that its entire personnel abroad has been Americanized, and incidentally the expenses cut more than 50 per cent. In 1920 when the present management of the shipping board took charge there were 350 employees in its European offices with an annual payroll of \$2,000,000, today the personnel abroad is 145 and the annual payroll \$400,000. When the present shipping board took charge only 26 per cent of the personnel abroad were Americans; today the personnel abroad is 100 per cent American. When the present shipping board took charge the entire maintenance and repair division abroad was 100 per cent British; today it is 100 per cent American. There were 40 offices in 10 districts; there are now only 18 offices in four districts. The work in these districts has been centralized. The offices now in operation in Europe are located in London, Liverpool, Glasgow, Falmouth, Bristol and Dublin, all in the British Isles; Ponta del Gada, in the Azores, Antwerp, Rotterdam, Hamburg, Bremen, Copenhagen, Gothenburg, Stockholm, Havre, Marseilles, Gibraltar and Constantinople.

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